



# BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

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CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD  
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April 24, 2014

Chair Mary Nichols  
California Air Resources Board  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

### **Catalina Island and the Proposed Amendments to the Truck and Bus Regulation (Agenda Item 14-3-2)**

Dear Chair Nichols:

The Santa Catalina Island Company and Catalina Island Conservancy recently learned of the proposed amendment to the Truck and Bus Regulation. We greatly appreciate the efforts of the Air Resources Board Staff to develop this proposed amendment to offer additional flexibility in implementing these new standards, which will help improve air quality in California.

To accommodate the unique situation on Santa Catalina Island, they are requesting that Santa Catalina Island be included in the list of NOx Exempt Areas. I support this amendment.

The total number of vehicles the proposed regulation applies to on Santa Catalina Island is less than 30. Many of these vehicles fall under the existing lower mileage exemption (1,000 miles annually) and most would fall under the proposed amended low mileage exemption (5,000 miles annually), which phases in particulate filters. Some buses that provide access to the interior of the island would slightly exceed the low mileage exemption.

The Santa Catalina Island Company and the Catalina Island Conservancy are both committed to installing particulate filters on its vehicles and plan to implement this measure in accordance with the proposed regulation.

However, if Santa Catalina Island does not have a "NOx Exempt Area" status, the proposed regulations would require engine replacement for the buses that provide access to the public throughout Catalina Island. Located 26 miles offshore of Los Angeles, the NOx emissions associated with this extraordinarily small and low mileage

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bus fleet is not contributing negatively to ambient ozone air quality. It would be prohibitively costly to replace the engines of the bus fleet operated by the Santa Catalina Island Company and the Catalina Island Conservancy and replacement would provide no significant benefit to air quality over the existing engines once equipped with the particulate filters.

Thank you and members of the Board for your consideration of this important amendment. Catalina Island is truly a unique place and visitor experience. Our office has worked closely with both the Santa Catalina Island Company and the Catalina Island Conservancy, over the years and I support their important work to provide unique visitor experiences and conservation. Their programs and activities are an asset to California and provide a truly wild experience for visitors and school children from Southern California and beyond.

Sincerely,



DON KNABE  
Chairman of the Board  
Supervisor, Fourth District  
County of Los Angeles

DK:co

c: Members of the Air Resources Board  
Mr. Richard Corey, Executive Officer  
Mr. Tony Brazil, Chief, Heavy Duty Implementation Branch  
Assemblymember Bonnie Lowenthal  
Senator Ted Lieu